DPI PROGRAMME Update

UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

16 May 1994

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UPCOMING EVENTS

23-27 May
World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction convenes in Yokohama, Japan.

5 June
World Environment Day.

7-14 June
Regional Preparatory meeting for 1995 World Confrence on Women (Beijing) in Jakarta, Indonesia.

26 June
International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Environment And Development " Peace Policy Of The Future"

Global partnership embracing both environment and development is increasingly becoming the "peace policy of the future", the new Chairman of the Commission on Sustainable Development, Klaus Topfer, Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature, Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany said in his opening statement to the Commission on 16 May.

Nitin Dessai, Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, called on the Commission to review the follow-up to the 1992 UN Conference on Development and Environment in terms of positive gains: the Desertification Convention, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the recently concluded Barbados Conference on Small Island States, and the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks. The Commission will look at patterns of energy production and consumption, worldwide action on freshwater, health, human settlements, toxic chemicals and hazardous waste.

(Reports and other documentation for the session are listed on page 6)

INFORMATION STRATEGY PART OF PEACE-KEEPING

All peace-keeping information components should form "an integral part of a well-defined UN information strategy", working with troop-contributing countries and those hosting peace-keeping operations, Samir Sanbar, Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information, told the Committee on Information, meeting at Headquarters. In his opening statement to the Committee on 9 May, he said that DPI should join in at the earliest planning stages of a mission.

The call for an increased DPI role in peace-keeping was echoed by several delegates in the Committee who noted that the most important of DPI's tasks is to provide information in support of peace-keeping and to clarify its purposes, aims and objectives Especially operations like UNOSOM II in Somalia and UNPROFOR in former Yugoslavia need information coordination to help prevent misunderstandings of their mandates, speakers said.

(Continued on page 2)

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READEX FICHE

DPI ACTIVITIES

UN Photo

Gaetan Rimwanguiya Ouedraogo (Burkina Faso), a Vice-President of the General Assembly, opening the first meeting of the Committee on Information on 9 May on behalf of Assembly President S.R. Insanally. Pictured at left is Assistant Secretary-General Samir Sanbar and at right Stanislaw Konik (Poland), Acting Committee Chairman.

(continued from page 1)

A top priority for DPI, Mr. Sanbar pointed out in his opening statement, is to sharpen the focus on specific current themes. The Department of Public Information is expected to support many mandates, including those not necessarily in the spotlight, he said. In total, DPI is expected to promote 12 major UN Conferences, 13 International decades, five International Years and at least 21 Annual International Weeks and Days.

UNICs Cited As Important Part Of UN Network

In the Committee's discussion of UNICs/UNISs, the Group of 77 developing countries, represented by Algeria, called for a further strengthening of UNICs.

The Western European and other States, represented by Finland, stressed that UNICs were a vitally important part of the UN information network, but must be given the proper resources to function effectively. Resources could be allocated within DPI away from static information activities into the UNICs, which were the most direct contact the UN had with the world public.

Speakers from all regional groups generally supported the Secretary General's policy of integrating some UNICs with other UN offices, including UNDP offices. However, some delegates said that further integration should only occur on a case-by-case basis.

DPI Exhibits

An exhibit presenting DPI information materials, including those produced by UNICs, were set up in the conference room where the Information Committee held its meetings. One panel showed the impact of UNICs outreach campaigns in connection with Human Rights Day, 10 December, and the 1994 International Year of the Indigenous Peoples. Clippings from local newspapers, UNIC newsletters, DPI materials and UNIC publications were displayed on the panel. Among UNIC publications were 24 local-language versions of the Secretary-General's report "An Agenda for Peace".

Another panel illustrated the information flow from Headquarters to the Centres with display of DPI press releases, the DPI Programme Update, and UN radio and TV tapes that are shipped to UNICs weekly via diplomatic pouch.

DOCUMENTS ON INFORMATION

(Discussed at the Information Committee's 16th session)

Questions relating to information (A/ RES/48/44, 3 March 1994).

The resolution of the General Assembly calling for continued dissemination of information on 18 mandated topics. It also calls for the revival of Development Forum, a DPI publication which was discontinued in December 1992 for budgetary reasons.

REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Substantive Questions, Status of the Development Forum *(A/AC.198/1994/3, 29 March 1994).*

The report discusses the revival of Development Forum.

Review of Publications by the Department of Public Information, (A/AC.198/1994/4, 23 March).

Among its publications, DPI issued 21 titles devoted exclusively to peace-keeping and other political missions during 1993.

DPI ACTIVITIES

Integration of United Nations Information Centres with field offices of the UNDP (A/AC.198/1994/5, 29 March).

The report concludes that in addition to "an improved unified image of the United Nations in the field", there is now a more effective inter-agency cooperation in public information activities in the host countries.

DPI MATERIALS ON DECOLONIZATION

DPI continues to disseminate information on the question of the Falklands Islands (Malvinas), Puerto Rico, Western Sahara and the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Caribbean region. The Department also gives coverage of events in connection with the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (1990 - 2000), reports Mustapha Tlili, Chief of the Anti-Apartheid, Palestine and Decolonization Section, DPI. At a recent meeting of the Subcommittee on Decolonization, he said that DPI's quarterly, UN Chronicle, covers all major developments in the field of decolonization. Objective Justice, a poster on decolonization has been published in English, French and Spanish, and the 1993 issue of the Yearbook of the United Nations has devoted one chapter to decolonization questions.

(Press release GA/COL/2916, 16 May 1994).

Documents

Report on the Seminar on the Economic and Social Conditions in the Remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, held at Headquarters, 10-12 May 1994, held under the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, Guidelines and Rules of Procedures.
(A/AC.109/1184, 7 April 1994).

For more information, please contact:

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NEWS FROM THE FIELD

FOCUS ON UNIC LONDON

Graeme Warner, Director of UNIC London, has been reassigned to the External Relations Service, DPI, at UN Headquarters. Adrienne De Doncker is Officer-in-Charge until a new Director is designated.

An unauthorized demonstration was carried out by members of the Muslim community in the United Kingdom in front of UNIC London on 20 April. The demonstrating group handed over to UNIC staff a communication addressed to the Secretary-General demanding that the UN lift the arms embargo against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This spring, the Centre's work has focused on publicizing the 1994 International Year of the Family and the United Nations 50th Anniversary. UNIC staff attend monthly meetings by the two National Committees on those topics. Under-Secretary-General Gillian Martin Sorensen visited London in January to review the activities proposed by the UK Committee for the 50th Anniversary.

Peace-Keeping

The Centre has been flooded with requests for materials on peace-keeping and has cooperated closely with UNA-UK to produce information packages aimed at various age groups.

A staff member attended a three-hour debate in the House of Lords on the United Kingdom's role — present and future — in peace-keeping and peace-making. UNIC supplied background materials to key speakers in the debate and prepared a report on the discussions for submission to the Secretary-General's Office.

Future activities

UNIC London is currently working with UNA-UK on a proposal to reproduce at UN Headquarters UNA-UK's Education Kit and to produce special UN 50th Anniversary educational materials for global distribution.

UNIC Director Graeme Warner met with the Director of the Scottish Educational Trust on a proposed visit by the Secretary-General to Scotland in 1995. Mr. Warner also met with the UN Parliamentary Group at the House of Commons to discuss a possible visit of the Secretary-General to London to address the Group at the Houses of Parliament.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

UN OFFICE IN AZERBAIJAN

Mahmoud El-Said, the UN Representative and Resident Coordinator in Azerbaijan, was recently honoured with the "Friendship Award", together with three Azeri personalities, for their humanitarian efforts and work for friendly relations between the Azeri people and other nations. Mr. El-Said received a prize of $100 which he donated to charity for children. In a speech given at the award ceremony at the UN Office in Azerbaijan, Mr. El-Said expressed appreciation for the award given to him as a representative for the United Nations.

UNO is expanding its regular cooperation with Azeri TV and will now provide materials to a weekly 30-minute programme on youth and UN activities, in addition to the daily 15-minute programme on the United Nations, which is very popular.

BANGKOK

UNIS organized a ceremony on 10 May at the UN Conference Centre at ESCAP to present a testimonial to Dr. Saisuree Jutikul, Chairperson of the Committee on the International Year of the Family (IYF) in Thailand. Present at the ceremony were members of the Social Division in Bangkok, representatives of the Thai media and UNIS staff. The event was covered by Thai television and radio (English Service), and Thai News Agency and newspapers.

BEIRUT

To celebrate the 1994 International Day of Women on 8 March, UNIC Beirut interviewed the Lebanese First lady, Mrs. Muna Hraoui, on her views on the status of women in Lebanon. Mrs. Hraoui is chairing the Lebanese National Committee on the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing in September 1995.

UNIC asked Mrs. Hraoui whether the Lebanese Government would sign the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women before the 1995 Conference. She expressed hope that the Government would sign the Convention, however, a strong dichotomy exists in the country between the legal rights of men and women, she said, and it will take some time to create the necessary conditions for equality between men and women.

As an example of the Government's efforts to alleviate discrimination against women, Mrs. Hraoui noted that the Ministerial Council has recently issued an amendment providing married women with the same rights as men to engage in commerce.

Mrs. Hraoui, who is also the President of the Lebanese National Committee for the 1994 Year of the Family, praised the work of UNIC Beirut in raising awareness about UN issues in Lebanon.

BUCHAREST

The Dictionary on International Economic Relations in Romanian was recently published in Bucharest, with more than 100 entries on UN activities in the field of development. The book was prepared by a group of university Professors from the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest. Information on the following topics was supplied by UNIC: trade, technical assistance, economic rights and duties of States, development strategies, Law of the Sea, transport, arbitration environment, and disarmament.

UNIC reports that local newspapers, TV and radio in Romania showed great interest in the Secretary-General's visit to Germany in the beginning of April. They reported on his talks with German leaders on the possibility of Germany participating in UN peace-keeping missions.

During the first quarter of 1994, 17 officials and postgraduate student from the Republic of Moldova visited the UNIC Library in Bucharest. Some 90 documents and several hundreds xerox copies were provided to citizens of Moldova visiting Romania, the Centre reports.

RIO

UNIC Director Aurelio Ruiz Minagorre has been invited by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry to participate in a seminar on "Economic Policies, Poverty and

(continued on page 5)

HAITI OUTLOOK

SANCTIONS AGAINST HAITI EXPANDED

The Security Council has expanded the sanctions regime against Haiti, effective 21 May, to include a comprehensive air and commercial embargo to bring the military authorities there to comply with the Governors Island Agreement (resolution 917, 6 May).

The sanctions will remain in place until the Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces retires, the Chief of Police of Port-au-Prince and Chief of Staff of the Haitian Armed Forces resign, and the democratically elected President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, returns to Haiti.

The sanctions will be lifted if a proper environment is created in which free and fair legislative elections can be organized and the UN Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) deployed, the resolution says.

The Secretary-General was asked to report no later than 30 June on the situation in Haiti and on the humanitarian situation and the preparations for legislative elections. (Press release SC/5841, 6 May).

SECURITY COUNCIL CONDEMNS ILLEGAL ATTEMPT TO REMOVE PRESIDENT ARISTIDE

In a statement issued on 11 May, the Security Council strongly condemned the recent attempt to replace the legitimate President of Haiti, Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The Council said that those who had taken part in illegal Governments in Haiti would be denied entry into any territory of a UN Member State. Their funds and financial resources held in foreign countries would be frozen without delay, as decided under resolution 917. (S/PRST/1994/24, 11 May 1994).

In March, the Council extended the mandate of UNMIH until 30 June (resolution 905) with the provision that the force be deployed as soon as conditions exist in accordance with the Governors Island Agreement. UNMIH has so far been prevented from carrying out its mandate by the Armed Forces of Haiti.

The Governors Island Agreement was signed on 3 July 1993 by President Aristide and the Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, Lieutenant-General Raoul Cédras. The parties agreed to a political dialogue, under the auspices of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States (OAS), aimed at reaching a political truce and promoting a social pact to bring about a peaceful transition. (SC/5809, 23 March 1994).

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI

In March 1993, the UN and OAS launched an appeal for $62.7 million for urgent humanitarian needs in the areas of health, nutrition, agriculture and education for the Haitian people. Contributions received so far only cover 15 per cent of the needs, writes the Secretary-General in his report on the situation of democracy and Human Rights in Haiti (A/48/931, 29 April 1994).

The humanitarian plan provides for programmes for mother and child health, urgent medical-surgical needs and support for health centres. Food aid has so far been provided for 1.1 million people. Water and sanitation programme benefit 1.5 million people.

As the situation in Haiti deteriorates, the report says, humanitarian needs are greater than the projections made in March 1993.

(UNIC Rio continued from page 4)

Labour" to be held in Rio on 19-20 May as part of the national activities to prepare for the 1995 Beijing Conference on Women.

The meeting aims at promoting a wide discussion of the Conference agenda and preparing the national position on its issues. The seminar will consist of four roundtables on the following issues: "A review of the role of women in labour in recent decades", "Participation of women in the labour market", "Income and poverty" and "Prospects for the new decade".

Representatives from governmental and non-governmental institutions have also been invited to participate in the seminar.

CONFERENCE NEWS

(Substainable Development continued from page 1)
Its overall mandate is to monitor the implementation of Agenda 21, the global blueprint for sustainable development adopted at the Earth Summit.

REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Freshwater resources. (E/CN.17/1994/4, 22 April 1994). By the year 2010, 26 countries, with a total population of 416 million, will suffer water scarcity, and 12, with a total population of 407 million, will be under scarcity stress, the report says. In 1987, some 80 countries, with 40 per cent of the world population, were already suffering from serious water shortages.

Policy issues that may be addressed at the high-level meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development (E/CN.17/1994/8, 3 May 1994).

Radioactive wastes. (E/CN. 17/1994/15, 4 May 1994). The past four decades have seen a sharp accumulation of radioactive wastes generated from nuclear weapons programmes, electric power generation and nuclear applications in medicine, and the production of radioisotopes. Neither the United States nor the Russian Federation has facilities either to store plutonium permanently or to dispose of it in a way that does not pose dangers to future generations, the report says.

Hazardous wastes. (E/CN.17/1994/7, 21 April 1994). Economic growth is accompanied by production of wastes which are often hazardous to health and the environment. Generation of wastes occurs at all stages of production, transportation, distribution and consumption of goods and services. Responsibility for their disposal is often unclear, the report warns.

Sustaining the future, press release: United Nations meets to monitor Earth Summit agreements.

Earth Negotiations Bulletin, published by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Tuesday 17 May 1994.

UNICs interested in further information on the Commission on Sustainable Development may contact:
Julie Thompson or Pragati Pascale
Information Programme on Sustainsble Development
Room S-1037, United Nations, New York, NY 10017
Tel: (212) 963-4295/6870 Fax: (212) 963-1186/4556

1995 CONGRESS ON PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW

To be held at UN Headquarters from 13 to 17 March 1995.

A UN Congress with the theme "Towards the Twenty-first Century: International Law as a Language for International Relations" will be held in New York in 1995 in the framework of the United Nations Decade of International Law (1990-1999). Participants will discuss codification, progressive development and implementation of public international law and education in international law. The purpose of the meeting is to assist the international community, and in particular the legal profession, to meet the challenges and expectations of the world today.

The decision to hold the Congress was made by the General Assembly under resolution 48/30 of 9 December 1993.

Interest in participating in the Congress should be addressed to its Secretariat, United Nations Headquarters in New York, Room 3460, no later than 15 August 1994.

1995 WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

"Turning Point" For Women

The Fourth World Conference on Women will represent "a vital continuation of the work on development issues" begun during the 1992 Rio Conference on Environment and Development and the 1993 Vienna Human Rights Conference, the Secretary-General told the Advisory Group of eminent persons at its recent meeting in Geneva. "A turning point has been reached in the cause of women worldwide. Recognition of women's centrality to all dimensions of development grows — but resources decline, and priorities become more difficult to determine", he said.

The Advisory Group called for a new vision of the 21st century in which gender equality would be achieved. It also called on the Beijing Conference to address the issue of poverty and the fact that women continue to be mostly affected by it.

(Press release SG/SM/94/64, 5 May 1994).

NGO SECTION

NGO briefing on 5 May 1994: Natural Disaster Reduction

Speaker: Mr. Peter Hansen, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Assistance

There is a need for a globally integrated natural disaster prevention programme, Peter Hansen, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Assistance told NGOs gathered at Headquarters for a briefing on the upcoming Global Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction in Yokohama, Japan, 23-27 May 1994. He appealed to the NGO community to support the efforts to disseminate information about disaster management.

The Yokohama Conference was called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/188. It will serve as a mid-term review of the International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction (1990-2000). The gathering of senior policy makers and technical experts in Yokohama is expected to design and coordinate strategies to mitigate the effect of disasters. They will discuss methodologies for assessing community vulnerability, construction of buildings resistant to disasters, establishment of warning systems, the relationship between man-made and natural disasters, and the economic aspects of disaster reduction. The Conference is expected to produce an integrated global action plan designed to deal with natural disaster reduction.

Prevention

Mr. Hansen told NGOs that UN programmes to prevent disasters in Bangladesh and Jamaica have considerably reduced deaths from serious natural disasters. He called for the necessary political will to create a worldwide disaster prevention programmes. Technologies already exist allowing the creation of warning systems, infrastructures and preventive measures which would greatly reduce destruction and virtually eliminate loss of life, he said.

Disasters occur in the developing countries

In the last twenty years, Mr. Hansen said, 3 million people have lost their lives and nearly one billion people have been seriously affected — more than any civil conflict in the same period. Ninety per cent of disasters occur in the developing countries, he pointed out.

Disaster prevention programmes should function as insurance policies, reducing the risk to fragile developing economies, Mr. Hansen said. Presently, the annual cost of preventable damage due to natural disasters is $60 billion.

Mr. Hansen expressed the hope that the Yokohama Conference will inspire governments and the international public to work out a plan to prevent natural disasters.

DPI/NGO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The forty-seventh Annual DPI/NGO Conference will take place at UN Headquarters from 12 to 14 September 1994. The theme of the Conference is "We the Peoples: Building Peace", intended as a link-up to the United Nations 50th Anniversary, which has as its theme, "We the Peoples: United for a Better World".

At the three-day Conference, participants will exchange ideas and experiences, share their concerns and expertise, formulate strategies for action, and explore the actual and potential roles of NGOs in peace-making, peace-keeping and peace-building.

The Conference is traditionally inaugurated by the Secretary-General. It is attended by high-level UN officials, prominent persons, academicians, as well as over 1,500 NGO representatives. As in previous years, travel accommodation and all other expenses will be borne by the participants and their organizations.

For more information on the activities of the NGO Section or for a copy of the registration form, please contact:

The NGO Resource Centre
801 UN Plaza, Registration, Room U-104,
NY, NY 10017 USA.

The deadline for sending registration forms is 15 August 1994.

NEWSBRIEFS

SECRETARY-GENERAL CALLS ON WORLD COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT SOUTH AFRICAN DEMOCRACY

During his recent visit to Pretoria, the Secretary-General called on all nations and on the international community to support the new democracy in South Africa. In a statement made after the inauguration of Nelson Mandela as President of South Africa, the Secretary-General appealed to all South Africans to support the principle of tolerance and reconciliation — the foundation for peace, security and progress.
(Press release SG/SM/5286, 10 May).

FAMILIES VITAL IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

"Through the 1994 International Year of the Family, we are returning to the basic elements of human society as a primary step towards a clearer and more powerful agenda for social justice", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in his message for the International Day of Families, 15 May 1994. He praised Member States' initiatives, noting that nearly 150 countries are carrying out national plans of action in observance of the International Year of Families. The vital role of families in the development process is "a key consideration" for the three upcoming UN conferences on population and development, social development and women, the Secretary-General pointed out.
(Press release SG/SM/5287, SOC/ 4293, 10 May.)

NEW UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

Joseph E. Connor, a national of the United States, has been appointed as Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, with effect from 1 May. Mr. Connor will be responsible to the Secretary-General for all financial and personnel matters and for ensuring an integrated approach to all managerial issues within the Secretariat.

1996 INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR ERADICATION OF POVERTY

At its 48th regular session, the General Assembly decided that 1996 be observed as the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty (A/RES/48/183). The resolution calls for activities for the observance of the Year at the local, national and international levels. It aims at creating awareness among States, policy makers and the international public opinion that the "eradication of poverty is fundamental to reinforcing peace and achieving sustainable development". The Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development is the preparatory body, and the Economic and Social Council is the coordinating body for the International Year. The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed on 17 October.

CANADA ASKS FOR SPECIAL SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO DISCUSS SITUATION IN RWANDA

The Government of Canada has asked the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ayala Lasso, to convene a special session of the Commission on Human Rights to discuss the findings of a mission to Rwanda and Burundi. Canada says that "effective action to prevent further human rights violations must be a central element of the overall United Nations response to the tragedy in Rwanda".

The Commission on Human Rights held its first exceptional session mid-August 1992 on the situation in former Yugoslavia. A second special session, on the same subject, was held in Geneva late November 1992.
(Press release HR/CN/563, 16 May 1994).

NEW MATERIALS

DPI PUBLICATIONS

United Nations World Summit for Social Development, Fact Sheet, May 1994 (DPI/1455).

The Social Summit, to be held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, furthers the commitment made in the UN Charter to promote "higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being".

Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and statements by its President concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, (DPI/1104, rev. 4 April 1994).

The Peace and Security Section, DPI, has updated its backgrounder on the Iraq-Kuwait conflict. The 73-page publication contains all resolutions adopted by the Security Council and Presidential statements as well as an introduction to the Gulf War.

Africa Recovery, United Nations Vol. 7, No. 3/4, December 1993 - March 1994.

This latest issue contains articles on a call for stronger support to Africa; the World Bank on structural adjustment; Angola's difficult road to peace, among other items.

The United Nations Department of Public Information and Non-Governmental Organizations (DPI/1438, April 1994).

This leaflet describes how NGOs, by submitting an application to DPI's NGO Section, can get access to selected meetings of UN bodies and to DPI and the Secretariat offices, UN specialized agencies' services and events, and use the Dag Hammarskjold Library.

VIDEO

UN in Action: Indigenous Guatemalans displaced by civil conflict helped by U.N. (16 May 1994, Prog. No. 337, Dur. 3'28", E, A, S, F, R).

Seventy percent of the indigenous descendants of the Mayas have lived in exclusion and poverty for centuries. Talks between the Government of Guatemala and the indigenous people, sponsored by the United Nations, is encouraging members of the Ixil tribe to return home. Many are finding employment in their once neglected communities in the highlands.

UN in Action: Mozambique exiles go home as peace returns. (9 May 1994, Prog. no. 336, dur. 3'11", E, A, S, F, R).

As the 16-year old civil war came to an end, refugees who fled Mozambique are now returning home. With funding from the UNCHR and other agencies, the country's infrastructure is being repaired. Many of the returnees have received seeds and tools in an effort to revitalize Mozambique's agricultural potential.

UN in Action: Canadians train for rigours of modern peace-keeping. (2 May, Prog. no. 335, dur. 3'01", E, A, S, F, R).

As UN peace-keeping duties become more hazardous, the Blue Helmets must get used to far more stressful duties than in the past. At a U.S. Marine base in California, Canadian peace-keeping soldiers are subjected to a new type of training designed to develop the kind of psychological toughness they will need in places like Bosnia.

UN in Action: UN calls for worldwide moratorium on export of anti-personnel mines (25 April, Prog. no. 334, Dur: 3'02", E, A, S, F, R).

Cambodia, Afghanistan and Mozambique are just three of sixty countries where civilian populations face the insidious terror of land mines. While the UN General Assembly moves to restrict the spread of mines, believed to number about 100 million, the International Red Cross is urging a complete ban on their use, and countries like Mozambique face a multi-million dollar mine-clearing clean-up.

UN in Action: Madagascar's ordeal continues after cyclone Geralda (25 April, Prog. no. 333, Dur: 4'03", E, A, S, F, R).

Madagascar's population is suffering from the aftermath of cyclone Geralda. Relief agencies are working with the UN to provide food and medicine to those in need. The effects of natural disasters and measures to minimize their impact will be discussed at the 1994 World Conference on Natural Disaster reduction to be held in Japan, 23-27 May.

NEW MATERIALS

DOCUMENTS

ECOSOC, official records, 1993

Commission on Human Rights. Report on the Forty-Ninth session (1 February - 12 March 1993).
Resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Committee during its 49th session.

ECOSOC, official records, 1992

Commission on Transnational Corporations. Report on the Eighteenth Session (23-25 January and 8-16 April 1992), (E/1992/26/Rev.1).
Contains the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Commission at its 18th session.

Committee for Development Planning. Report on the Twenty-Eighth session (18-22 April 1992). (E/1992/27).
This report analyzes national and international development trends and describes the role of the UN in international economic cooperation.

General Assembly and Economic and Social Council

Working with NGOs: operational activities for development of the UN system with NGOs and Governments at the grass-roots and national levels. Note by the Secretary-General (A/49/122, E/1994/49, 13 April 1994).
This report focuses on opportunities and problems involved in greater collaboration between international organizations, NGOs and governments in operational activities for development at the field level. It presents a brief discussion of the nature of NGO work and recent trends and explores how the collaboration can be strengthened.

Field representation of UN system organizations: a more unitary approach. Note by the Secretary-General (A/49/133, E/1994/49, 22 April 1994).
This report is intended as a contribution to the current debate on restructuring and rationalization of the United Nations system. It sets forth its recommendations in two categories: for immediate implementation and for longer-term.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the forty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly (A/49/50/Rev.1, 20 April 1994).

Reports of the Secretary-General

Issues of diversification of African economies, specifically the establishment of a diversification fund for Africa's commodities (A/48/914, 13 April 1994).
The General Assembly asked the Secretary-General, under resolution 48/214 on the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, to prepare background documents for intensive consultation between States, financial institutions and UN organizations.

Strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/49/99, 23 March 1994).
The Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) has asked the Secretary-General for proposals on the use of evaluation as an instrument of improving management and programme planning, among other things. As a response to that request, the report suggests to evaluate: start-up phase of peace-keeping operations and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in 1995; termination phase of peace-keeping operations and the link between public information and development in 1996; and environment and statistics in 1997.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Demographic Yearbook: Special Issue on Population Ageing and the Situation of Elderly Persons (Sales no. E/F.92.XIII.9; price $74 clothbound. See also press release POP/534, STAT/427, 11 April 1994).
A special issue of the UN Demographic Yearbook on population ageing has been issued, using 40 years of national population statistics to show the process of population ageing and giving information on age structure, residence, literacy, marital status, family and living arrangements, etc.

NEW MATERIALS

The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, Volume 18, 1993, Sales No. E.94.IX, is available at $50.

The UN Centre for Disarmament Affairs has just issued the Yearbook containing a review of the main developments and negotiations which took place in 1993 together with a brief history of the major issues. The publication focuses on developments within the framework of the United Nations.

(See also press release DC/2461, 4 April 1994).

Approaches towards the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the question of Palestine, issue 25, June - December 1993.

Division for Palestine Rights, United Nations, New York, March 1994. This is a compilation of statements, declarations, documents and other material on the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the question of Palestine, issued since April 1991.

DPI PROGRAMME UPDATE:

A Fortnightly Publication of the Centres Programme Section.
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DPI PROGRAMME Update

UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

1 June 1994

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UPCOMING EVENTS

26 June
International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

27 June to 29 July
Substantive session of ECOSOC.

4 to 22 July
Conference on Disarmament.
Ad-Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban.

11 July
World Population Day.

94-24578

SECRETARY-GENERAL PRESENTS AN AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of An Agenda for Development is to "correct a distorted perception" that the UN is dealing only with peace-keeping operations, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said at a press conference at Headquarters on 25 May. "We are also involved in development. Development is a prerequisite for peace", he told correspondents. UN Member States and the various programmes and funds of the United Nations are spending $3.6 billion every year on development, while $2 billion are spent on peace-keeping, he said. "Donor fatigue" — a major obstacle after the cold war — could be overcome by mobilizing public opinion to understand the importance of development and the connection between development and peace, the Secretary-General said.

(Continued on page 2)

CELEBRATING THE AFRICAN CHILD

The Day of the African Child will be celebrated at UN Headquarters on 15 and 16 June. At a ceremony on 15 June, children and teachers from all over the world will gather in the General Assembly Hall wearing the national dress of their country and waving national banners. The South African singer, Thuli Dumakude, will entertain the children with authentic African songs. The formal part of the celebrations will be held on 16 June with a gala event for about 2000 guests in the General Assembly Hall. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will make an introductory statement. Other speakers include Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Richard Jolly, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director, and a video taped statement by Nelson Mandela will be shown.

(Continued on page 2)

Photo: UNICEF/Jeremy Hartley

A smiling boy eats his meal at the UNICEF-supported TNIMA Orphanage, part of the JFK Memorial Hospital in Sinkor, Monrovia.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Secretary-General presents Development Report at Press Conference...

Another way to overcome donor fatigue was to improve coordination between the United Nations and the private sector. The Secretary-General said he hoped his report would be the beginning of process. He would report to the General Assembly in time for its forty-ninth regular session beginnig in September 1994. ***(Press release SG/SM 5297, 25 May 1994.)***

Secretary-General's new report on development is entitled: "Development and International Economic Cooperation: An Agenda for Development". Report of the Secretary-General ***(A/48/935, 6 May 1994).***

WHY AN AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT ?

The Secretary-General's new report on development is an effort to link the core themes of the United Nations system: peace, economic progress, sustainable development, the environment, justice and democracy. He calls for "a wider intellectual understanding, a deeper moral commitment and more effective policy measures" to obtain global development. Without them, he warns, "a half century of considerable progress could be undermined".

If the human community is to continue to advance, the Secretary-General concludes, "it is necessary to build respectfully upon what we have been given, to recognize that current achievements must be accessible to all, and to ensure that the work we leave behind stands not as a structure in need of repair but as a platform for future progress". With this in mind, an inventory of United Nations work for development is annexed to the report.

World Hearings on Global Development

World Hearings on Global Development will be held at Headquarters from 6 to 10 June to discuss why the imperative of development has fallen off the global agenda in the post-cold war era and to identify precise ways in which the "An Agenda for Development" can restore it. The hearings are at the initiative of the President of the General Assembly, Samuel R. Insanally. A panel of Ambassadors and Ministers drawn from the regional groups will hear 6-7 speakers each day followed by questions and answers. The outcome of the hearings will be published as an official document.

A press kit on the World Hearings on Global Development has been sent to all UNICs/UNISs. It contains a copy of the "An Agenda for Development" as well as a list of participants in the hearings.

Celebration Of African Child...

The Day of the African Child commemorates the 16 June 1976 massacre of school children in Soweto, South Africa and was first observed internationally in 1991. The Day mobilizes communities around the world to look at the situation of all African children and to celebrate the diverse cultures and traditions of a vast continent. Last year's activities took place on every continent and in over 40 African countries. In the United States, President Bill Clinton, along with 87 mayors and 7 governors, signed official proclamations establishing 16 June as the Day of the African Child.

As of January 1994, over 35 African nations have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the international treaty that guarantees children the basic human rights of survival, protection and development under all circumstances, including war.

The UN Radio Section is providing coverage of the celebrations in the General Assembly Hall.

For more infonmation, please contact:

United States Committee for UNICEF
333 East 38th Street,
New York, New York 10016.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES CELEBRATED BY UNICs

The first observance of the International Day of Families on 15 May 1994 was celebrated by many UNICs/UNISs in all regions.

UNIC Rome, using DPI background materials, issued a press release in Italian to the local media to the Day. The Centre also translated into Italian the Secretary-General's message for the Day and distributed it widely. On 15 May, the daily Il Messaggero carried excerpts of the message on its front page, and the Vatican Radio covered the event in its radio programmes.

UNIC Santa Fé de Bogota organized with CAFAM — a non-profit organization that promotes social development for Colombian families — an international drawing contest on the subject of the family.

UNO Georgia translated into Georgian the Secretary-General's message and distributed it to the media. On 15 May, the message was broadcast on the Georgian TV together with a half-hour interview with Feodor Starcevic, the UN Representative in charge of UNO Georgia, on the IYF and its objectives.

IYF Coordinator Henryk J. Sokalski visited Spain during the first week of May for meetings with the Spanish Minister of Social Affairs, Cristina Alberdi. Mr. Sokalski and Mrs. Alberdi held a joint press conference following the meeting. Mr. Sokalski also met with Spanish NGOs and with the President of the Catalonia Autonomous Government and the Catalonia Minister of Foreign Affairs. During his stay in Madrid, Mr. Sokalski was accompanied to all events by Mario Zamorano, Director of **UNIC Madrid**.

UNIC Beirut reports that the Lebanese National Committee on the IYF held a number of round tables, and produced a family anthem and a poster for the IYF. The National Committee for the IYF is chaired by the Lebanese First Lady, Mouna Hraoui.

UNIC Tunis reproduced the Secretary-General's message and distributed it to the media in English, French and Arabic. UNIC also disseminated the IYF press kit to NGOs and governmental and academical institutions. Dailies, regional and national radio stations and national TV stations carried the Secretary-General's message using the material distributed by UNIC Tunis.

UNIC Rio co-produced with the Brazilian educational TV network, TVE, a week of daily TV programmes dedicated to the International Day of Families. The Centre also prepared information materials for its monthly bulletin "ONU em foco" and for the national media. UNIC Rio reports that it is receiving many requests for information on the IYF in general. TV Globo, the biggest Brazilian TV network, broadcast a major programme on IYF.

The Director of **UNIC Rabat**, Fawaz Fokeladeh, contacted the Minister of Social Affairs to propose a National Seminar to celebrate the Day. About 200 high-level persons participated in the Seminar, including three Moroccan Ministers: (Justice, Social Affairs and Human Rights) and Mr. Fokeladeh read the Secretary-General's statement. UNIC Rabat produced a special issue of its newsletter, UNIC Review, focusing on the International Year of the Family, the Copenhagen Social Summit, and the Cairo Conference on Population and Development. The Centre translated into Arabic and French the Secretary-General's message for the Day which was distributed to Government officials, universities and the media.

UNIC Lisbon set up a photo exhibit to mark the International Day of Families

UNIC SANTA FÉ DE BOGOTA PARTICIPATES IN ANDEAN SOCIAL SUMMIT

A Social Summit for the Andean countries, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela, was held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 20-22 April 1994.

Called the Andean Social Summit, the meeting brought together some 260 participants under the theme "Building Effective Solutions Within the Economy to Remedy Social Difficulties in the Andean Region". Delegates discussed new economic policies and their impact on less favoured population groups, eradication of poverty, employment and education. The Summit was organized by the Andean Parliament in Caracas.

In his opening statement, the President of Venezuela, Rafael Caldera called for "harmonious solutions that combine wealth and justice". He noted that social problems cannot be remedied with subsidies, nor charity. "Real paths" must be found so that the "poor can escape from humiliating poverty", he said.

UNIC Bogota Director Angel Escudero de Paz made a presentation on the 1995 UN Summit on Social Development to be held in Copenhagen, 11-12 March 1995. After the statement, he took questions from the audience and distributed 250 information kits containing the DPI Fact Sheet on the World Summit for Social Development (DPI/1427) and the Secretary-General's report on the Social Summit (A/CONF.166/PC/6).

Among the participants were the President of the Venezuelan Congress, Eduardo Gómez; former Presidents of Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela; Bolivia's Vice President, Julio Garret Aillon; ministers; parliamentarians; representatives from development agencies; and UN officials.

The Andean Social Summit produced, among other things, a "Social Letter for the Andean Region" which will be presented at the next Preparatory Commmittee for the Social Summit at in August in New York.

UNIC COPENHAGEN ASSISTS SECRETARY-GENERAL ON VISIT TO NORWAY

Kim Garval ended his term as Officer-in-Charge of UNIC Copenhagen with a major assignment — helping prepare for the Secretary-General's visit to Norway, 1-3 May 1994. The new Director of UNIC Copenhagen, Jorge Ulate-Segura, arrived in Denmark on 1 June and immediately took part in the Human Development Workshop organized by UNDP on the occasion of the launching of the Human Development Report.

Mr. Garval acted as intermediary between the Secretary-General's Spokeswoman in Europe, Thérèse Gastaut, and Norwegian Government officials and media. He disseminated to the media the text of a BBC-TV interview with the Secretary-General on the "Breakfast with Frost" programme, and the Secretary-General's message on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, 3 May 1994, and other materials.

During his visit, the Secretary-General held talks with Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland and Foreign Minister Bjoern Tore Godal. He was received in audience by King Harald and Queen Sonja and placed a wreath at the tomb of one of his predecessors, Trygve Lie.

The Norwegian daily Aftenposten quoted Mr. Boutros-Ghali as saying that he was pleased to be in Norway for the first time as chief of the UN. He praised Norway's contribution to the Organization, saying the country was among the most faithful supporters of the UN. "If only all the other UN Member countries were just as willing", he told the paper.

Mr. Garval arranged for the translation of major Norwegian newspaper articles about the Secretary-General's visit, which were sent to Ms. Gastaut. He also organized the transmission to UN Headquarters of a press conference held by the Secretary-General on 3 May in the Norwegian Government Guest House. The feed was used by UN correspondents, UN Radio and TV.

International Journalists Encounters

An International Encounter for Journalists on the Question of Palestine with the theme "Prerequisites to peace in the Middle East", is to be held in Elsingore, Denmark 14-17 June. The meeting, which will be opened by the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs, is being organized by the Anti-Apartheid, Palestine and Decolonization Section, DPI. It will discuss how to establish a lasting peace through security, development and democratization. Senior Palestinian and other Arab officials as well as senior Israeli officials are expected to serve on the discussion panel.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

UNIC COLOMBO HOLDS WORKSHOP FOR SRI LANKAN MASTER TEACHERS

"The changing role of the United Nations" was the theme of a recent workshop for 35 Sri Lankan Master Teachers in Social Studies, organized jointly by UNIC Colombo and the National Institute of Education (NIE).

The workshop was held to mark the Global Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados from 23 April to 6 May. Meetings focused on sustainable human development, the Secretary-General's Agenda for Peace, and Sri Lanka's contribution to the United Nations. A panel discussion on "Problems Encountered in Teaching about the United Nations in Secondary Schools" was also part of the programme.

Opening the workshop, J.K. Robert England, Director of UNIC Colombo, said that on any given day the United Nations was in the news headlines, trying to make peace, save lives and promote global values. These new challenges had emphasized the "intrinsic imperfections of the Organization, reflecting both the strengths and weaknesses of its Member States", he said.

Jayantha D'anapala, Director-General of Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, stressed the importance of the United Nations to Sri Lanka. He urged teachers to make their students understand and appreciate the relevance of the Organization to the actual situation in Sri Lanka. Only then would the UN cease to be an "abstract concept of a building in New York" and become a much more meaningful idea.

Network of teachers

The master teachers who attended the workshop will function as a network of district coordinators and will conduct similar briefing sessions for other social science teachers in their respective districts. The UNIC Colombo National Information Officer will be coordinating with the master teachers this year's UN observances. UNIC Colombo will publish the proceedings of the workshop in local languages.

Mr. England was impressed by the depth of the Sri Lankan Master Teachers' knowledge and their constructive criticism of the role of the UN. The teachers were looking forward to working in partnership with UNIC particularly in the coming year when the UN celebrated its 50th anniversary, he said.

The TV station Rupavahini and the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation covered the workshop in their news broadcasts. Major newspapers in Sri Lanka also covered the event.

BRUSSELS

The Officer-in-Charge of UNIC Brussels, Ria Heremans, and the Reference Assistant, Jean-Luc Onckelinx, attended a two-day seminar on "Conflicts, Development and Military Interventions", organized by the Liaison Committee of development NGOs of the European Union on 8-9 April 1994.

The seminar adopted a final document stressing that preventive diplomacy should be supported by economic, social and cultural development. The document also called for an international ban of anti-personnel mines, and an international demining fund under United Nations guidelines. A series of resolutions on South Africa, Cambodia and the former Yugoslavia were also adopted by the meeting.

MADRID

The centre co-organized with Spanish police authorities in Madrid a four-week training course on the role of civilian police in UN peace-keeping operations for Latin American police officers from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Uruguay. UNIC had responsibility for modules on the following topics: United Nations peace-keeping operations; administrative, organizational and personnel matters; and human rights and humanitarian affairs. UNIC Director Mario Zamorano participated together with John Pace, Coordinator of Technical Cooperation, the Centre for Human Rights in Geneva, and with Armando Duque, former UN official who lives in Madrid.

Mr. Zamorano said it was gratifying to meet again with Spanish police officers who served in the United Nations Observer Mission in Central America (ONUCA) and the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL).

DISASTER REDUCTION CONFERENCE

A SAFER WORLD

The World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction was held in Yokohama, Japan 23-27 May 1994.

The World Conference opened on 23 May 1994 in Yokohama, the Japanese city that was almost reduced to rubble during a 1923 earthquake. With the theme "A Safer World for the Twenty-First Century", participants discussed a plan of action for the second half of the 1990-1999 International Decade on Natural Disaster Reduction. The theme is of particular importance to developing countries where 90 per cent of the world's natural disasters and deaths occur. The plan includes proposals to set up national and local procedures and worldwide access to global and regional warning systems.

Opening the Conference, Peter Hansen, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, said a coordinated international strategy for disaster prevention and mitigation is like preventive diplomacy — it reduces the threat before the disasters become crisis.

In a video message to the Conference, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali called for a broader concept of development that encompasses natural disaster reduction. "Acts of nature cannot be abolished. But development can help to prevent future natural disasters", he noted.

Trust Fund

Speakers at the Conference complained that the 1990-1999 International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction had not led to international cooperation to assist developing countries. The lack of resources for the Trust Fund for the Decade was an example of the lack of support, they said.

Japan has developed one of the best technologies in the world for disaster prevention and has made it available to developing countries with grant assistance, the representative of Japan told delegates. He proposed regional meetings for the last half of the Decade to ensure progress. ***(Press releases ND/389, 13 May 1994 and ND/390, 391, 394, 23 may 1994)***

AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction *(A/RES/48/188, 9 March 1994).*

The resolution asks the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly's forty-ninth regular session opening in September a report on progress in its implementation.

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: Economic assistance to Vanuatu, Report of the Secretary-General *(A/49/158, 12 May 1994).*

The principal donors to Vanuatu are Australia, the United Kingdom, France and Japan. Of the multilateral donors UN agencies, particularly UNDP, provide most of the assistance.

For further information concerning the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, please contact:

Elizabeth Kassay, Public Information Officer
Secretariat for International Disaster Reduction
Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: (41-22) 733-5850 Fax: (41-22) 733-8695

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S POSTER EXHIBIT

An international Children's Poster Exhibit will take place in the Public Lobby at UN Headquarters during the month of August 1994, honouring the 1994 International Year of the Family (IYF).

Sponsored by the IYF Secretariat, the exhibit will show paintings by children from five continents, between the ages of seven and 14, expressing their ideas of the role of the family.

Submissions should be no larger that 17 X 22 inches (43 X 56 cm) and should include the child's name, age, name and address of school, and grade. Entries should be mailed no later that *15 July 1994* to:

International Year of the Family/World Gratitude Day
Children's poster exhibit
United Nations, 1 UN Plaza, Suite 613
New York, N.Y. 10017

UN 50TH ANNIVERSARY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO HOLD SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE MEETING IN OCTOBER 1995

The General Assembly will hold a special commemorative meeting on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter, from 22 to 24 October 1995, at the level of Head of State or Government. This proposal was recently adopted by the Preparatory Commmittee for the UN 50th Anniversary. All heads of delegations will have the opportunity to address the meeting.

UN 50th ANNIVERSARY THINK TANK

One aim of the United Nations 50th anniversary is "to reach beyond informed or elite public opinion, to the wider, more global audience", the Secretary-General said recently in Geneva. He was addressing a one-day meeting of eminent persons invited to the Swiss city to provide counsel regarding the commemoration. Young people should be a major target of those efforts, he said. The international community should celebrate what had been achieved, and safeguard it for the future, so future generations could build on, and learn from what had been done, he said.

National Committees

Forty-four national committees for the Anniversary have now been established and 26 more are being formed. The Secretary-General called on national committees not to dilute the purpose and impact of the anniversary by organizing too many events. He also cautioned against duplication and repetition and called for a coordination with UN system agencies that were planning their own anniversary celebrations for 1995.

Among the members of the Advisory Group meeting in Geneva were Richard von Weizsacker, President of Germany; Prince Sidi Mohamed, Crown Prince of Morocco; Julius Nyerere, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania; Lord David Ennals. former government Minister, United Kingdom; Bernard Kouchner, former government Minister, France; Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Nobel Peace Laureate; Androula Vassiliou of Cyprus, President of the World Federation of United Nations Associations; Sonia Gandhi of India, Chairperson of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation; Mariapia Fanfani of Italy, President of the Together for Peace Foundation; and Amalia Lacroze de Fortabat of Argentina, Ambassador-at-Large.

(Press release SG/SM/5279, ANV/189, 4 May 1994.)

Global Teach-in

Gillian Martin Sorensen, Special Adviser for Public Policy, says plans are under way for a global teach-in on the United Nations. Educational institutions are being urged to hold seminars on UN history and activities. The Secretariat for the 50th Anniversary is working in close cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to prepare materials in various languages for different educational levels.

(Press release ANV/190, 19 May 1994.)

UN UNIVERSITY DIALOGUE PRECEDING SOCIAL SUMMIT

University professors, and officials from the UN University/World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER) will meet in Helsinki, Finland, 17-18 June 1994, to convene a Conference on the Politics and Economics of Global Employment. The Conference will focus on the global dialogue preceding the 1995 World Social Summit. Participants will discuss comparative analyses of employment policies, transformation of transitional economies, a global human development policy, and the role of international organizations.

Papers presented by the participants will be published by UNU/WIDER and made available by August 1994 for the Preparatory Committee for the Social Summit.

For more information please contact:

UNU/WIDER

Katajanokanlaituri 6 B

FIN-00160 Helsinki, Finland

Tel: 358-0-693-841 Fax: 358-693-8548

NEW MATERIALS

DPI PUBLICATIONS

A Guide to Information, a new DPI publication to inform the general public, NGOs and the press about the structure of United Nations system including the Secretariat is scheduled to be published in July 1994.

The Guide includes information about all United Nations agencies and bodies, including Departments and Offices in the Secretariat, their mandates, what programmes they are responsible for, what information materials they produce and who to contact for information. The guide will be available free of charge to the press, NGOs, academics and others who follow UN activities. UNICs will automatically receive copies when the Guide is ready for distribution.

VIDEO

UN in Action: UN completes removal of nuclear material from Iraq (30 May 1994, Prog. no. 340, dur: 3'24", E, A, S, F, R).

The Security Council mandated the elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction in the wake of the Gulf war. One important element of this operation is to remove nuclear fuel from Iraq to help eliminate the country's potential to manufacture nuclear bombs. In an unprecedented $25 million operation, the highly radioactive material has now been transported by aircraft to Russia where it will be diluted from weapons grade to civilian reactor quality.

DOCUMENTS

General Assembly

Resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly during its forty-eighth session. Note by the Secretary-General, Addendum ***(A/INF/48/8/Add.3,27 April 1994).***

Ecosoc 1994 Substantive Session

Summary of the Survey of economic and social conditions in Asia and the Pacific, 1993 ***(E/1994/52, 29 April 1994).***

The developing economies of the ESCAP region, by registering an average growth rate of 6.7 per cent against the backdrop of the continuing recession in the world economy in other regions, performed remarkably well, the report says. The question will be taken up by ECOSOC at its summer session.

Narcotic drugs. Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1993 ***(E/1994/42, 8 April 1994).***

The past two decades have witnessed a dramatic worsening of the world drug abuse situation, this report states. It will be taken up at ECOSOC's 1994 substantive session (27 June - 29 July).

Field representation of United Nations system organizations: a more unitary approach. Note by the Secretary-General ***(A/49/133/Add.1, E/1994/49/Add. 1, 22 April 1994).***

The report focuses on the issue of the unification of field activities, recognizing that it is unlikely to achieve unity at the country level as long as there is separation at the Headquarters level. The question will be taken up both by ECOSOC and by the General Assembly.

Statement submitted by the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), NGO in consultive status with ECOSOC, category I ***(A/AC.70/1994/NGO/1, 11 May 1994).***

The objective of WFUNA is to promote public understanding of the United Nations and to mobilize public support for its activities. The report will be taken up by the open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with NGOs, at its first session (6-10 June 1994).

Committee on Information

Draft report and draft resolution B: Information in the service of humanity ***(A/AC.198/1994/L.1 - L.2, 19 May 1994).***

Draft resolutions and decision from the 16th session of the Committee on Information.

DPI PROGRAMME UPDATE:

A Fortnightly Publication of the Centres Programme Section.
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